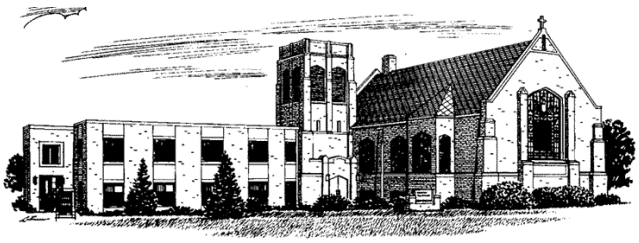
SARON NEWSLETTER

Saron Evangelical Lutheran Church (ELCA)
510 Main Street
St. Joseph, Michigan 49085

Website: www.saronlutheran.org
Email: info@saronlutheran.org
Phone: 269-983-1273
Facebook: www.facebook.com/saronlutheranchurchst.joseph



The Rev. Joan Oleson, Pastor
Home: 269-983-2475
Email: oleson@saronlutheran.org

Marcus Roll, Senior Choir Director,
Bell Choir Director
Email: roll1mc@gmail.com
Irma Gorman, Organist
Margaret Froehlich, Administrative Assistant
Nanci Fenrick, Financial Secretary
Danielle Hohman, Child Care

Sundays at Saron:
During the School Year:
8:30 & 11:00 A.M. Worship
Childcare provided
9:40 Learning for Ages 2 – Adult

Summers (thru Labor Day weekend):
9:30 Holy Communion
Childcare provided
No Learning Hour

All are welcome!
We hold in prayer:
The Rev. Elizabeth Eaton,
Presiding Bishop, ELCA
The Rev. Dr. Craig Satterlee, Bishop of the
North/West Lower Michigan Synod, ELCA
The Rev. Whayne Hougland, Bishop of the Episcopal
Diocese of Western MI

Our Companion Synods:
Christian Lutheran Church of Honduras
Lutheran Church of Papua New Guinea
Lutheran Church of Latvia

Saron's Mission:
Joyfully sharing God's love for all!!

October 2017

Several "special events or opportunities" are happening this month. On Sunday, October 8, at both of our worship services we will hold a service of healing. Individuals are invited to come forward for the laying on of hands and anointing. In the midst of news of wildfire, hurricane, earthquake and more, we will also offer a prayer for the healing of creation. Marcus will lead us in this musical offering.

We also celebrate the 500th anniversary of the Reformation. This is not a Lutheran self-congratulatory event but a time to be reminded of the church's ever reforming nature and the desire that some day we all might all be one at the Lord's table.

As part of this commemoration, Saron will be showing Rick Steve's *Luther and the Reformation* on Monday, October 23 at 7 pm in the lounge. Snacks will be served. It is a one-hour feature in which Rick Steves *tells the story of Martin Luther…and much more. He provides context for the Reformation, explores the roots of the religious discontent that led up to it, and considers the messy politics of the 16th century.* He also discusses *indulgences, purgatory, iconoclasts, the Counter-Reformation and how the printing press empowered uncommon ideas from common people. (From the DVD cover.)* Friends encouraged.

Pastor Joan

Common Prayer Service
Reformation Sunday, October 29, 3:00pm
Cathedral of St. Andrew in Grand Rapids

Catholic Bishop David John Walkowiak will be joined by Lutheran Bishop Craig Alan Satterlee for this ecumenical observance.

Caring and Sharing

In Our Prayers –

We remember in our thoughts and prayers: **Arla Huelsberg** is at the Whitcomb Tower Retirement Center, St. Joseph; **Lila Roethel** is at the Willows; and **Bernice Koski** is at Woodland Terrace: **Virginia Anserello** is at Pine Ridge, Stevensville.

Serving in the military:

Andy Wedde – **California**
Sarah Deal Burrow – Afghanistan

Office Hours at Saron

Margaret (secretary): Mon-Tues, 9 AM - 1 PM
Weds of Newsletter Week, 9 AM - 1 PM
Volunteers: Weds, 9:30 AM - 11 AM+
Nanci (financial secretary): Weds afternoon
Call for other times/changes
When Pastor is out of town, emergency pastoral care information can be obtained by calling the church office (983.1273) or contacting the president of the congregation.
Note: E-mails meant for Pastor should be addressed to oleson@saronlutheran.org. E-mails to Margaret and the church office should be addressed to info@saronlutheran.org.

Happy Birthday Wishes to Saron's Members in October 2017

Oct. 2 - Steve Cook
Judith Wedde
4 –Jim Oleson
Mary Kynast
8 - Jonathon Peterson
10 - Hannah Breyen
12 - Andrew Olson
13 - Kerrie Hoodlebrink
14 - Pauline Ngonyani
15 - Elias Coar
16 - Kristine Weber
17 - Savannah Talbert
19 - Robert Baumgartner
20 – Keith Stevens
24 - Matthew Baumgartner
26 - Gary Cowall
Amanda Bradley
29 - Donald Moely
31 - Ivan Kiessel

Happy Anniversary Wishes to Saron's Members in October 2017

Oct. 2 –Steve and Cynthia Schmidt
6 - Robert and Charlene Baumgartner
13 - David and Susan Bailey
Jason and Jessica Crockett

"God's Blessings for a very happy day and year round"

If there is anyone who has been omitted, or, if the dates are incorrect from the birthday and anniversary list, please call the church office at 983-1273. Thank you.

Worship

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE READINGS

As you prepare for worship, you are invited to read and reflect on the Scriptures for the day.

Sunday Oct 1 –
Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost
Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32
Psalm 25:1-9
Philippians 2:1-13
Matthew 21:23-32

Sunday Oct 8 –
Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Isaiah 5:1-7
Psalm 80:7-15
Philippians 3:4b-14
Matthew 21:33-46

Sunday Oct 15 –
Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Isaiah 25:1-9
Psalm 23
Philippians 4:1-9
Matthew 22:1-14

Sunday Oct 22 –
Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost
Isaiah 45:1-7
Psalm 96:1- 10-13
1 Thessalonians 1:1-10
Matthew 22:15-22

Sunday Oct 29 –
Reformation Sunday
Jeremiah 31:31-34
Psalm 46
Romans 3:19-28
John 8:31-36

Nursery Help Needed

We always welcome more volunteers for the nursery. If you can help, please sign up at church or let Marilyn Lucy or Krin Jurgensen know of your willingness.

PRAYER GROUP

Join us on Mondays at 11:00 a.m. for a time of quiet reflection and prayer, which includes lifting up the requests offered on Sundays at worship. We meet in the sanctuary.

A word from Father Martin

In commemoration of the 500th anniversary of the Reformation celebrated this year, we hear a word attributed to Father Martin:

October 1

"Beautiful music is the art of the prophets that can calm the agitations of the soul; it is one of the most magnificent and delightful presents God has given us."

October 8

"Grant that I may not pray alone with the mouth; help me that I may pray from the depths of my heart."

October 15

"My heart, which is so full to overflowing, has often been solaced and refreshed by music when sick and weary."

October 22

"All teachers of Scripture conclude that the essence of prayer is simply the lifting up of the heart to God. But if this is so, it follows that everything else that doesn't lift up the heart to God is not prayer. Therefore, singing, talking, and whistling without this lifting up of your heart to God are as much like prayer as scarecrows in the garden are like people. The name and appearance might be there, but the essence is missing."

October 29

"God wants us to pray, and he wants to hear our prayers—not because we are worthy, but because he is merciful."

ALL SAINTS REMEMBRANCE

On All Saints Sunday, November 5, 2017, we will remember at worship those who have gone before us and have joined the church triumphant. If you would like someone to be remembered, please fill out a form at church or contact the church office by October 29.

Youth

Saron High School Youth Group Launch!

Saron high school youth are invited to attend the first group meeting on October 1. We'll meet at church at 12:30 p.m. (after second service) and then head out for lunch. We'll take the opportunity to explore what funtivities the group would like to do and plan when we'll meet each month. Contact Scott Gaspari at scottgaspari@outlook.com for details or if you have any questions.

Additionally, if any adult would like to get involved with this youth group, please e-mail Scott.

Learning

book of faith
Open Scripture. Join the Conversation.

Saron is a congregation seeking to become more fluent in the first language of faith, the language of Scripture, in order that we might live into our calling as a people renewed, enlivened, empowered and sent by the Word.

Learning Hour News

Classes for ages 2 yrs – adults happens each Sunday morning at 9:40. Please join us!

THURSDAY BIBLE STUDY

A Thursday 9:30-11:00 a.m. Bible study you are invited to join the group. We are studing ***By Heart: Conversations with Martin Luther's Small Catechism***. This resource helps us connect our life today to the biblical and historical context of the Small Catechism. **The cost of the book is $12.00 which can be paid at class.**

Weds Bible Study

The Wednesday Bible Study is on hiatus. There will be more info if/when the study resumes.

Tuesday Evening Men's Bible Study
Saron's Tuesday Evening Men's Bible Study meets at 6:00pm at the church. At 7:00pm we adjourn for a meal and fellowship. The Bible Study will meet each week through the fall until its Advent break. All men are invited to join us. As the Bible says "As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another" (Proverbs 27:17). For more information call Bob Kynast at 269-921-2786.

Ephesus Bible Study Group
Ephesus group will meet Sunday, October 22 at 5:00 p.m. at the home of Charlie & Linda Pater, 7932 Lakewood Drive South, Coloma. Questions, call Linda at 468-3303. The Ephesus Group is always welcoming new folks to their study.

Men's monthly Bible Devotions and Breakfast
Men's Bible Devotions/Breakfast will again resume on October 7th at the Galley Grill in Stevensville at 9:00 a.m.

1ST SUNDAY BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP
October 1st, 6:30 p.m. in the upstairs lounge, we start another season of good reading, good discussions and good company. The book up for review is, "A Gentleman in Moscow", by Amor Towles. It's 1922 Russia. A Bolshevik tribunal has sentenced Count Alexander Rostov to house arrest in a hotel across the street from the Kremlin. Rostov, an erudite aristocrat, never worked a day in his life, now lives in an attic. Thus, this humorous, beautifully scripted novel begins to cast it's magical spell.

Then on November 2nd, we will discuss "Today Will Be Different", by Maria Semple. How many times have each of us uttered this phrase? Maria Semple attempts to deal with it. Receiving kudos from all the major book review sources, Semple brings to life, Eleanor Flood, a woman who thinks she's a mess in all areas of her life. Eleanor sets out to reinvent herself, all in one day. The result is a surprise you won't see coming, guaranteed!

Please join with us. We hope to see you at all of our monthly gatherings, but you are more than welcome to come anytime a book selection sounds interesting. Questions? Call Kathy Cowall (269-428-0354) or kcowall@hotmail.com.

"One must always be careful of books, and what is inside them, for words have the power to change us." (Casssandra Clare, Clockwork Angel)

Women of the ELCA

Deborah Circle will meet at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, October 11, 2017, at the home of Deanna Deaton. The study leader will be Colleen Lundgren.

Each fall Saron Church Women support the collection of **"PERSONAL CARE KITS, FABRIC KITS," and also CASH DONATIONS for shipping costs** for Lutheran World Relief (LWR). LWR then distributes them all over the world, wherever they are needed. Kit bags are available with the final collection day **Sunday, OCTOBER 8th.**

A personal care kit has one light- weight bath towel (dark color recommended), two bath-size bars of soap, one adult size toothbrush, one sturdy comb and one metal nail clipper. A fabric kit has 2-4 yards of cloth and matching thread.

PLEASE, "DO NOT ADD OTHER ITEMS OR LEAVE OUT ANY OF THE ITEMS LISTED. ALL ITEMS SHOULD BE NEW AND IN GOOD CONDITION." The last few years we have been asked to donate money for shipping costs.

The shipping cost for each Personal Care Kit is $2.65 and $1.00 for each Fabric Kit. Donations can be cash or checks made payable to Saron Church Women. **Thank you in advance for your generosity in supporting this ministry.**

Hospitality

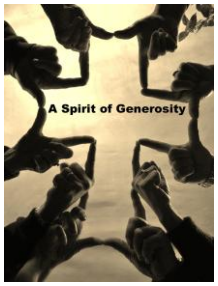
Sign Up for Refreshments
Please consider signing up for refreshments to be served after worship on Sundays. There is a sign-up sheet on the Narthex bulletin board.

Support

STOCK DONATIONS

Saron partners with Scottrade, a brokerage firm, to accept stock donations. If you would like to donate stock, contact our representative, Bill Fuentas, at (574) 272-1980. The statements we receive from Scottrade do not identify who donated the stock so please notify Eric Standen or Nanci Fenrick when you have donated. This allows us to complete the transaction and to be sure it's added to your giving statement. If you have further questions or concerns contact Eric Standen or Nanci Fenrick

STEWARDS OF GOD'S LOVE



….with glad and generous hearts, praising God …. Acts 2:46c

It's only October but as dutiful stewards we're busy planning for 2018. We continue with an emphasis on **"A Spirit of Generosity"** for the coming year. As God's people we publicly share our commitment to furthering God's kingdom on earth through the mission and ministry of Saron Lutheran Church. As always, we pray that Saron's people generously continue giving time, talent, and treasure.

Our Stewardship Sundays this year will be as follows:

Oct 22 The Generosity of God
Oct 29 The Generosity of Faith also Reformation Sunday
Nov 5 The Generosity of God's People also All Saint's Sunday
Nov 12 ***Commitment Sunday****: Because by the Grace of God*
Breakfast served by Saron's men 9:25-10:30

Please join us each Sunday as we worship, praise God, and generously share what God has given us.

God's Work. Our Hands.

A Special Message for Travelers and Those Who Prefer Electronic Giving

Saron offers the option to give electronically for your convenience. Please contact the church office if you have any questions or to enroll. Thanks.

Outreach

Benton Harbor Soup Kitchen

Lutherans know with all Christians that true faith is actively expressed in love for our neighbor. The church is called to serve people's material as well as spiritual needs. On August 24 Saron served 151 people a meal, helping to fulfill a life sustaining need. Thanks to Brian, Coanne, and Danielle Hohman, Mary and Bob Kynast, Ruth Ball, and Marlene Schalon for serving our ham dinner. Delicious cookies were baked by Darlene Kiessel and Beth and Piper Gray-Roll.

LARGE or SMALL cans of fruit, for use at the Soup Kitchen, are always needed.

God's Blessings to all,
Jan Stevens

"God's Work. Our Hands"

September 10 was a day for Saron to celebrate who we are as the ELCA - one church, freed in Christ to serve and love our neighbor-and what a great day we had! Thanks to soooo many generous HANDS (and Voices:),Saron was joyfully helping out our community.

Eau Claire school children will be receiving lots of school supplies. The Humane Society 's dogs and cats will have new toys to play with (Thanks Nolan for this great idea!), along with dog and cat food, and laundry detergent. We hope that Saron's singing brightened the day of the residents at Pine Ridge and the Whitcomb. Thanks to all, Outreach

SW MI Human Trafficking Task Force

The 3rd Annual "Shine a Light on Human Trafficking 5K" event will be held at Barbott Farm Corn Maze, in Stevensville, on September 28 at 6:30pm -Come and walk or run!

Thanks to everyone who has purchased soap, available in the narthex. All proceeds from the sale of the soap benefit the SW MI HT Task Force training programs.

LWR Fair Trade

We support Lutheran World Relief Fair Trade farmers through our selling of coffee, tea, and cocoa at cost. We have flavored coffee, decaf, medium and dark roast coffees, black and green teas, and now we are offering Keurig cups. Please support this ministry by purchasing these products regularly for yourself and as gifts. Thank you.

MICHIGAN BLOOD DRIVE

Guess What Time It Is!
Yep, It's Blood Drive Time! This is the time for you to give just a little yourself that becomes a huge Gift for someone else. Come October 16th, from 2-6:00 pm to Saron's Blood Drive. All you need is a picture I.D. and be 17yrs or older, and eat well for a couple of days before and after, (for most of us that is NOOOO problem!). Guide lines for giving blood are always changing, so if you were not able to give in the past, you might be able to give now. Information can be found on Michigan Blood's web site or soon at the church in information pamphlets. Any questions, contact Keith Stevens or Marilyn Lucy (Fact: did you know those two like the color red? Huh!)

MEET ME AT THE FREEZER

What is this ministry? Who is it for? Who can take these meals? Where are the meals? These are frequently asked questions regarding this Outreach ministry.

Martin Luther stated that it was the church's responsibility to CARE FOR PEOPLE, and that is what MMATF is all about! Simply said, ANYONE can take a meal and give it to ANYONE who needs it! The meals are located in the dining room freezer, help yourself :) Thanks to Darlene, Colleen, Sally, Mary, Kathy, Linda for cooking our freezer meals.

If you are interested in helping in this program ,please contact Jan Stevens

Facilities

Lawn Mowers

Thank you to all who took time and effort to help with this seasons mowing.

USED INK CARTRIGES NEEDED

Please save your used ink cartridges as it saves the church money in office supplies, is a good fellowship opportunity as well as helping to maintain God's house. There is a collection box in the Narthex. Please consider helping and if you have any questions talk to Bill Oleson or Pastor Joan

Council News

Financial Secretary News

We welcome Nanci who plans to work in the office on Wednesday afternoons, beginning at approximately 2:30. You can reach Nanci at the office during that time. She is also open to phone calls at 269/845-2595 or an e-mail at **nanci0126@yahoo.com**

Attendance Record	
08/27/2017	*63*
09/03/2017	*52*
09/10/2717	*92*
09/17/2017	*77*

Saron's Council Members – 2017

Karen Hinckley (326-0688) – President
Matt Bradley (419-306-5780) – Vice President
Eric Standen (556-9629) – Treasurer
Mary Kynast (428-0148) – Secretary

Mary Kynast (428-0148) – Worship*
Jack Houser (556-0377) - Learning*
Eric Standen (556-9629) – Facilities*
Brad Frey (921-8618) – Facilities*
Scott Gaspari (847-373-8825) – Youth*
Nolan Becker (269-558-3252) – Youth*
Matt Bradley (419-306-5780) – Support*
Tyler Cook (269-930-2810) – Hospitality*
Judi Huff (473-5075) – Hospitality*
Amy Nelson (920-227-5354) – Outreach*
Joan Oleson (983-1273) office;
983-2475 home) – Pastor
**liaison*

God's work.
Our hands.

PINE
RIDGE

SARON LUTHERAN CHURCH
510 MAIN STREET
ST. JOSEPH, MI 49085

Website: www.saronlutheran.org
Email:info@saronlutheran.org

A Congregation of:
The North/West Lower Michigan Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

October 2017

We're on Facebook! Like us at
www.facebook.com/saronlutheranchurchst.joseph

FACEBOOK

We love to share pictures of Saron's ministry on our Facebook page and we get great feedback. It is our practice not to put names with the pictures. If you prefer your family member's picture not to be posted, please let us know, so that we can honor that request.

Saron
October Volunteer Schedule

	October 1		***October 8***		***October 15***		***October 22***		***October 29 Reformation Sunday***	
	8:30	**11:00**	**8:30**	**11:00**	**8:30**	**11:00**	**8:30**	**11:00**	**8:30**	**11:00**
,	Marilyn Frey	Bill Oleson	Pauline Ngonynai	TBD	Wendy King	Tyler Cook	Eric Standen	Dennis Lundgren	Jan Stevens	Colleen Lundgren
Reader/ Comm.Asst	Steve Bell	Laurel Gacek	Sally Schmuhl	Lindsay Gaspari	Jan Stevens	Denise Cook	Jim Manore	Darlene Kiessel	Sue Rood	Matt Bradley
Ushers	Eric & Deb Standen	Tyler Cook & Ken Ark	Keith Stevens Jim Manore	Brad & Marilyn Frey	Eric & Deb Standen	Peter & Karen Johnson	Fritz Knauf & Stephania Ngonyani	Jerry & Ruth Stelling	Walt & Sally Schmuhl	Scott & Lindsay Gaspari
Acolyte	Brandon Burrow	Grant Gacek	Brooke Henderson	Molly Becker	Jenna Henderson	Mia Bradley	Carter Hohman	Meredith Gacek	Brandon & Troy Burrow Jenna & Brooke Henderson	Molly Becker Meredith & Grant Gacek
Nursery 1st	Karen Hinckley	Lindsay Gaspari	Deb Standen	Krin Jurgensen	Allison Rood	Marilyn Lucy	Mary Alice Brunner	Laura Stark	Fran Richard	Ruth Stelling
Nursery 2nd										
Bldg. close		Dave & Kathie Bradley		Brad & Marilyn Frey		Dan Gustafson		Dennis & Colleen Lundgren		Bob Hopkins
Snacks	Irma Gorman	Pat Breyen	Deb Standen	OPEN	OPEN	OPEN	OPEN	OPEN	OPEN	OPEN
Lawn mower	Peter and Karen Johnson		Johnson		Johnson		Johnson		Johnson	
Flowers	Bob and Mary Kynast				Dave and Susan Bailey		Keith and Jan Stevens			

October 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 8:30 & 11:00 a.m. Worship 9:40 a.m. SCS Classes 6:30 p.m. **1st** Sunday Book Discussion	**2** 11:00 a.m. Prayer Group	**3** 6:00 p.m. Men's Bible Study	**4** 9:30 a.m. Golden Hammers	**5** 9:30 a.m. Bible Class 6:00 p.m. Bells 7:00 p.m. Senior Choir Rehearsal	**6**	7 9:00 a.m. Men's Devotion/Break-fast at Galley Grill
8 8:30 & 11:00 a.m. Worship 9:40 a.m. SCS Classes	**9** 11:00 a.m. Prayer Group Newsletter Articles due	**10** 6:00 p.m. Men's Bible Study	**11** 9:30 a.m. Golden Hammers 7:00 p.m.Deborah Circle	**12** 9:30 a.m. Bible Class 6:00 p.m. Bells 7:00 p.m. Senior Choir Rehearsal	**13**	14
15 8:30 & 11:00 a.m. Worship 9:40 a.m. SCS Classes	**16** 11:00 a.m. Prayer Group 2-6pm Blood Drive 7:00 p.m.Church Council Meets	**17** 6:00 p.m. Men's Bible Study	**18** 9:30 a.m. Golden Hammers 4:00 p.m. Vasa	**19** 9:30 a.m. Bible Class 6:00 p.m. Bells 7:00 p.m. Senior Choir Rehearsal	**20**	21
22 8:30 & 11:00 a.m. Worship 9:40 a.m. SCS Classes 5:00 p.m. Ephesus Bible Study Group	**23** 11:00 a.m. Prayer Group 7 p.m. Rick Steve's *Luther and the Reformation*	**24** 6:00 p.m. Men's Bible Study	**25** 9:30 a.m. Golden Hammers	**26** 9:30 a.m. Bible Class 6:00 p.m. Bells 7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal 9:30 a.m. Soup Kitchen	**27**	28
29 8:30 & 11:00 a.m. Worship 9:40 a.m. SCS Classes	**30** 11:00 a.m. Prayer Group	**31** 6:00 p.m. Men's Bible Study				